

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 90-687-C - ORDER NO. 90-1151

DECEMBER 4, 1990

IN RE:	Application of Mobilcom d/b/a)	ORDER APPROVING
	PageCom to transfer its)	TRANSFER OF CERTIFICATE
	Certificate of Public)	AND NAME CHANGE
	Convenience and Necessity to)	
	the Communications Group.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of an Application filed by Mobilcom, a South Carolina General Partnership, d/b/a PageCom (the Applicant) for approval of the transfer of Mobilcom's Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to the Communications Group, a South Carolina Limited Partnership, d/b/a PageCom. The Applicant is seeking authority to permit the Communications Group to continue to operate PageCom under the present schedule of rates, charges, tariffs or regulations approved by the Commission. The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-11-140(1976).

The Application was duly noticed to the public. No Petitions to Intervene were received by the Commission.

Thereafter, a public hearing was held in the Commission's Hearing Room, 111 Doctors Circle, Columbia, South Carolina, the Honorable Marjorie Amos Frazier, presiding. Mitchell M. Willoughby, Esquire, represented the Applicant and Marsha A. Ward, General Counsel, represented the Commission Staff.

The Applicant presented the testimony of W. Macon Sheppard, II, majority owner of the Communications Group. Mr. Sheppard testified that the Communications Group is a South Carolina Limited Partnership which was formed in November of 1990. It will do business in four (4) different divisions: 1) Art Dodd, Dodd Communications - Motorola sales and service, 2) PageCom - area wide and state wide paging, 3) Mobilcom - mobile and cellular telephone sales and service and 4) Skyline Communications - tower and repeater rental. The managing partner of The Communications Group will be Blackhawk Enterprises, Inc., a South Carolina Corporation wholly owned by Mr. Sheppard. There will be five (5) limited partners. All assets will be in the limited partnership. Personnel for PageCom will be employed by Blackhawk Enterprises, Inc. which will receive a management fee from the limited partnership.

PageCom is currently providing service in Bamberg, Barnwell, Allendale, and Hampton counties directly and is reselling RCC services of Dial-Page in Orangeburg and Calhoun counties. The Communications Group will be doing business as PageCom and will continue to provide uninterrupted service to its customers in the counties listed above. Mr. Sheppard stated that the purchase of Mobilcom d/b/a PageCom will have no effect on PageCom's currently approved tariff. The transfer will be virtually transparent to PageCom's existing customer base.

Mr. Sheppard further added that while Mobilcom is offering a consistent and reliable service to its customers presently, the purchase of Mobilcom by The Communications Group will serve to strengthen this service considerably. It is the intention of The Communications Group to expand and upgrade the facilities in order to further enhance the excellent service already offered.

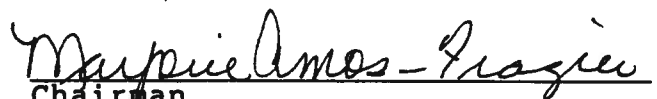
As to the maintenance of the system, it was established that technicians will conduct periodic on-site inspections of all radio and transmission equipment. Any adjustments found to be necessary will be effected promptly after consultation with the appropriate supervisors. In addition to performing day-to-day operations and maintenance functions, technicians will be available on a twenty-four (24) hour calling basis for emergency system repairs. Also, the system described by witness Sheppard has certain built in controlled diagnostic and alarm functions which monitor the system on a continuous basis and will permit PageCom personnel to pin-point abnormalities. There is also available, on a twenty-four (24) hour basis, the resources of the manufacturer of the switching equipment, which will consult with PageCom as to any malfunctions. The manufacturer can even perform some remote repair functions via-maintenance telephone lines.

The financial viability of The Communications Group was supported by Mr. Sheppard's testimony. Further, Mr. Sheppard stated that The Communications Group was fit, willing and able to begin providing high quality and reliable paging service to PageCom's customers.

The Commission has considered the request of the Applicant and finds that it is in the public interest to approve the transfer of the Certificate to The Communications Group. The transfer of the Certificate will not adversely affect the service to the public. The Commission also approves the name change from Mobilcom, d/b/a PageCom to The Communications Group, d/b/a PageCom. Further, the Commission finds that no change in rates, service areas or other tariff matters will take place, that The Communications Group is fit, willing and able to provide adequate radio common carrier service and that it is in the public interest for the requested transfer to be approved.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)